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MLGC 50th Anniversary History Fall 1994 - Spring 2004
submitted by Loretta Player

In the Fall of 1994 Bill Clinton was president. The US Forces were sent to the Persian Gulf. Four persons were convicted in the World Trade Center bombing.

Meanwhile right here in Mount Laurel 39 active members of the Country Garden Club of Mount Laurel with Karen Pugh as their president were celebrating their 30th Anniversary. In honor of this event the membership was made open to non Mount Laurel residents. The dues was \$15.00 for active and \$22.50 for inactive members. It remained the same from 1994 to 1997 when it was increased to \$20.00 for active and \$30.00 for inactive members. As of the 2003 - 2004 season it was still the same. The meeting place from 1994 to 1998 was not specified. From 1999 to 2004 the yearbook specified all the meetings took place in the Mount Laurel Library on the third Monday of the month from September through June.

Each year a luncheon was held in November at various places as the club's main fund raiser. This funded the Scholarships that were awarded each year to one or more Mt. Laurel High School Seniors.

The December meetings found the ladies making wreaths for all the township buildings. During this ten year span the wreaths were actually made from cuttings attached to frames and then decorated.

In 1994 Jane Grabowski and her committee decorated Sweetbrier House in Fairmount Park for the Holidays. A lovely thank you was received stating "Sweetbrier never looked so good. Even the house committee people agreed that it was the best ever and the guides agreed with our vistors who all loved it."

To celebrate Arbor Day a Cherry Tree was planted in Laurel Acres Park in memory of two lifetime members Ann Ricci and Marge Levy.

Each Spring members enjoyed a bus trip. Some places visited during these years were Longwood Gardens, Morris Arboretum, Winterthur, Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, Odessa Delaware, The Staten Island Botanical Gardens and Hillwood Museum and Gardens in Washington, DC.

Each year was concluded with a luncheon in June to install the new officers, thank the ones leaving office and award the scholarships. From 1994 until 1997 they held a picnic at Laurel Acres Park. To celebrate their 35th Anniversary in 1998 the luncheon took place at the Ramblewood Country Club. It featured Favorite Memories of the past 35 years. From then until 2004 the luncheon was held at the Ramblewood Country Club or Lumberton Leas.

In 1995 The Russian space station Mir greeted the first Ammerican. The Oklahoma Bomber Timothy McVeigh was indicted. Pope John Paul II visited the United States.

Karen Pugh returned to serve her second year as president. There were 40 returning active members and 13 new members added after the printing of the year book.

A third place and an honorable mention was earned at the Philadelphia Flower Show for a room entitled "Irish Reflections of Home."

A Zumi apple tree was planted in front of Mt. Laurel's Municipal Building for Arbor Day.

Bill Clinton beat Bob Dole to win his second term as president in 1996. He appointed Madeline Albright as the first female Secretary of State. It was the beginning of

